

April 5, 2013

NWT Labour Force Activity - March 2013 -

Statistics Canada estimates that, in March 2013, out of 32,100 residents 15 years of age and older 21,800 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 67.9%. Nationally, Canada's employment rate stood at 60.8%.

This was the sixth consecutive month the employment rate declined, resulting in the lowest rate since January 2011. Nevertheless, in previous years, March tends to mark the end of the seasonally low winter employment rates.

Those not in the labour force also declined from the previous month, however there were an additional 300 persons actively seeking employment resulting in an increase in the unemployment rate to 8%.

NWT Labour Force Activity

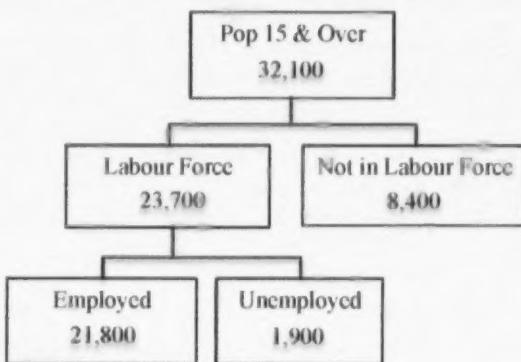
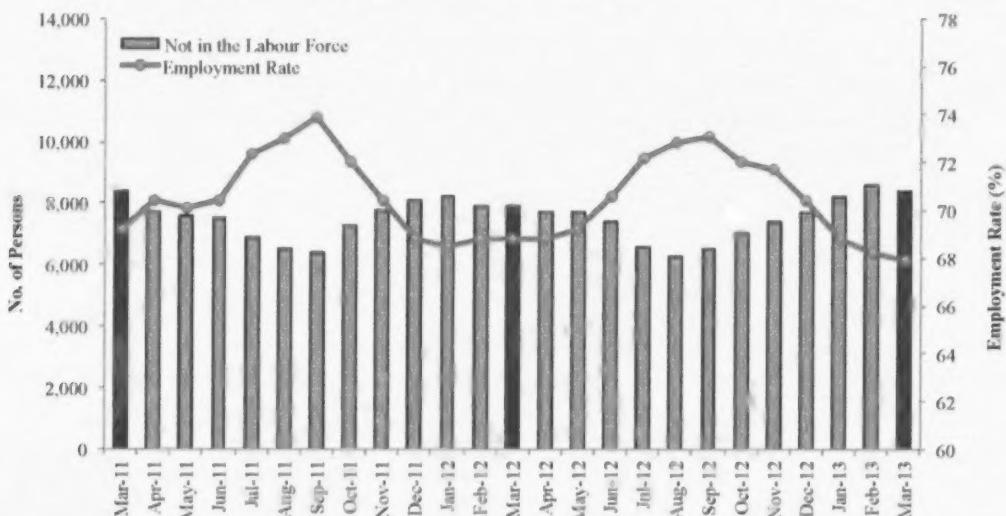


Figure 1 Employment Rates, Northwest Territories, 2011-2013



Between February and March 2013, the employment rate decreased in many key characteristics, most notably for youth and communities outside Yellowknife. In contrast, the employment rate for non-aboriginals increased by 0.3 percentage points, while the rates for females and 25-years & older remained the same.

**Table 1 Employment Rates by Key Characteristics
Northwest Territories**

	Mar-13	Feb-13	Jan-13	Dec-12	Nov-12	Oct-12
Northwest Territories	67.9	68.2	68.8	70.4	71.7	72.0
15-24 Yrs.	40.9	41.8	43.3	44.8	47.8	52.2
25 Yrs. & Over	74.9	74.9	75.6	77.2	78.0	77.2
Males	68.7	69.3	70.5	73.3	73.3	73.3
Females	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.7	70.3	71.0
Aboriginal	50.7	51.1	52.8	54.2	56.7	57.1
Non-Aboriginal	82.1	81.8	82.1	83.2	83.3	83.9
Yellowknife	80.0	80.1	80.0	80.3	81.9	80.9
Other	56.3	57.0	58.4	61.0	62.4	63.9

From March 2012 to March 2013, total employment decreased by 300 persons. Employment in service-producing industries decreased by 500, offset by an increase of 200 persons in goods-producing industries. Similarly, decreases in part-time employment were offset by gains in full-time employment. While private-sector employment increased by 400 persons, public sector employed 400 fewer persons. Self-employment decreased by 300 persons.

**Table 2 Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics
Northwest Territories, March 2013**

	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13 to	Mar-12 to
				Mar-13	Mar-13
Total Employment	21,800	21,900	22,100	(100)	(300)
Full-time	19,400	19,700	19,200	(300)	200
Part-time	2,400	2,200	2,900	200	(500)
Employees	20,500	20,600	20,500	(100)	-
Public	10,100	10,100	10,500	-	(400)
Private	10,400	10,600	10,000	(200)	400
Self-employment	1,300	1,300	1,600	-	(300)
Goods Producing	3,700	3,900	3,500	(200)	200
Service Producing	18,100	18,000	18,600	100	(500)

The following table presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

**Table 3 Labour Force Activity
Northwest Territories**

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unem- ployed	Not in the Labour Force	Partic- ipation Rate	Unemp- loyment Rate	Employ- ment Rate
Mar-13	32,100	23,700	21,800	1,900	8,400	73.8	8.0	67.9
Feb-13	32,100	23,500	21,900	1,600	8,600	73.2	6.8	68.2
Jan-13	32,100	23,900	22,100	1,700	8,200	74.5	7.1	68.8
Dec-12	32,100	24,400	22,600	1,800	7,700	76.0	7.4	70.4
Nov-12	32,100	24,700	23,000	1,700	7,400	76.9	6.9	71.7
Oct-12	32,100	25,000	23,100	1,900	7,000	77.9	7.6	72.0
Sep-12	32,000	25,600	23,400	2,200	6,500	80.0	8.6	73.1
Aug-12	32,000	25,700	23,300	2,300	6,300	80.3	8.9	72.8
Jul-12	32,000	25,400	23,100	2,300	6,600	79.4	9.1	72.2
Jun-12	32,000	24,700	22,600	2,100	7,400	77.2	8.5	70.6
May-12	32,100	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,700	75.7	8.6	69.2
Apr-12	32,100	24,300	22,100	2,200	7,700	75.7	9.1	68.8
<i>Previous Years:</i>								
Mar-12	32,100	24,200	22,100	2,100	7,900	75.4	8.7	68.8
Mar-11	32,100	23,800	22,200	1,500	8,400	74.1	6.3	69.2
Mar-10	32,200	22,200	20,500	1,800	10,000	68.9	8.1	63.7
Mar-09	32,100	23,000	21,900	1,100	9,100	71.7	4.8	68.2
Mar-08	32,000	24,000	22,500	1,500	8,000	75.0	6.3	70.3
Mar-07	31,500	24,800	23,800	1,000	6,700	78.7	4.0	75.6
Mar-06	31,200	24,200	23,100	1,100	7,000	77.6	4.5	74.0
Mar-05	31,200	24,100	22,800	1,300	7,100	77.2	5.4	73.1
Mar-04	30,800	22,900	21,500	1,300	7,900	74.4	5.7	69.8
Mar-03	29,800	22,200	20,600	1,600	7,600	74.5	7.2	69.1

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at <http://www.statsnwt.ca> or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: May 10, 2013